

R E M A R K S

Careful review and examination of the subject application are noted and appreciated.

SUPPORT FOR THE CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Support for the claim amendments can be found in the specification, for example, on page 1, lines 8-11. Thus, no new matter has been added.

OBJECTION TO THE DRAWINGS

The objection to FIG. 6 is respectfully traversed and should be withdrawn. As such, the objection to the drawings should be withdrawn.

TELEPHONE INTERVIEW

Applicants' representative (Chris Maiorana) and Examiner Hoye and Examiner Boccio held a telephone interview on August 2, 2005. Claim 1 was discussed. An agreement was reached involving an amendment to claim 1 that would overcome the art of record. Similar amendments have been made to the various other independent claims. The Examiner agreed to update the search. Applicants' representative agreed to file an RCE.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103

The rejection of claims 1-5, 7-10, 24 and 25 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over O'Connor '667 in view of Yonemitsu et al '840 (hereafter Yonemitsu) has been obviated by appropriate amendment and should be withdrawn.

The rejection of claim 11 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over O'Connor and Yonemitsu in further view of Russo '383 has been obviated by appropriate amendment and should be withdrawn.

The rejection of claims 14, 20, 22 and 27 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over O'Connor has been obviated by appropriate amendment and should be withdrawn.

The rejection of claim 27 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over O'Connor in view of Official Notice has been obviated by appropriate amendment and should be withdrawn.

The rejection of claims 15, 16, 18, 19, 21, 23, 28 and 29 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Thomason et al. '612 (hereafter Thomason) in view of Yonemitsu has been obviated by appropriate amendment and should be withdrawn.

The independent claims have been amended in accordance with the agreement reached as outlined in the interview summary section.

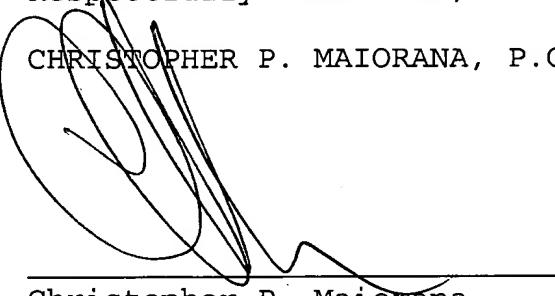
Accordingly, the present application is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action by the Examiner is respectfully solicited.

The Examiner is respectfully invited to call the Applicants' representative at 586-498-0670 should it be deemed beneficial to further advance prosecution of the application.

If any additional fees are due, please charge Deposit Account No. 12-2252.

Respectfully submitted,

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Christopher P. Maiorana
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Dated: August 10, 2005

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Docket No.: CC-084/CPA / 1496.00251